

yet that is what the Administration's proposed Postsecondary Institutions Ratings System will attempt to do.

On December 17, 2013 the Department of Education solicited in the Federal Register a Request for Information on the Postsecondary Institution Ratings System (PIRS), suggesting that the Federal Government knows better than students and their families what makes a college or university valuable and appropriate for each individual. A rating system, administered by the Federal Government and potentially tied to Federal student aid, will drive postsecondary institutions to standardization, thereby decreasing choice, diversity, and innovation.

I rise today in opposition to this proposal and instead stand in support of students and their families—they know best what will meet their educational needs. The House Resolution I offered today with my friend, Congressman CAPUANO, strongly supports the quality and value of diversity in our higher education system and strongly disagrees with the Administration's proposal to rate our Nation's colleges and universities.

It is true that all taxpayer dollars, including those spent on Federal student aid, should be spent efficiently; however, it is also important that we trust students' free choices and allow for postsecondary institutions to be evaluated, not only by their accreditation and Federal eligibility for federal aid, but also by the free market choices of the students they are competing for.

Our Nation's colleges and universities are as diverse as our students. Historically black colleges, women's colleges, faith-based colleges, research universities, career training schools, work colleges, land grant universities, institutes for the arts, and other specialized institutions all offer a world of opportunity and innovation in postsecondary education. We must protect this American tradition and reject any proposal that will intentionally, or unintentionally, destroy it.

HONORING FRED WILFORD

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Fred Wilford on his retirement after thirty-six years of service to his community as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Sagaponack Common School District in Sagaponack, New York, located in my district. Mr. Wilford has served his community and his country with dedication and distinction, and I am proud to call him a resident of New York's first congressional district. In addition to his long-time work on the school board, he is also a fifty-year veteran of the local volunteer fire department and a veteran of the United States Navy.

First elected to the Sagaponack school board in 1978, Mr. Wilford has served twelve consecutive terms on the board. He is known as a dedicated and caring person who always works for what is best for the school, its students and its teachers. His connection to the school district stretches back to his grandmother, Maebelle Clarke, who taught at the school at the beginning of the Twentieth Cen-

tury and where she met her future husband, Fred Topping. With its historic little red schoolhouse and one teacher, the Sagaponack school district has one of the few remaining one-room schoolhouses in the country.

Mr. Wilford, who has lived all of his life in Sagaponack except for the four years he served in the Navy, attended the Sagaponack schoolhouse as did his mother, Elmira, his six siblings and his four children. During his tenure on the board, he served as board president, vice president and trustee. His wife Ellen served as a member of the school maintenance support staff, the scholarship committee and the shared decision making committee throughout his tenure on the board.

"I love the job, I love the school, and I love what I do," Mr. Wilford, said recently about his plan to retire this month. "It's been part of my life for so many years that you hate to give it up."

In addition to his service to the school, Wilford also served for fifty years as a member, past chief and commissioner of the Bridgehampton Fire Department. He worked for the Long Island Lighting Company for over thirty years and currently operates an estate care business.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the school district will miss Fred Wilford's expertise and commitment after he retires. On behalf of New York's first congressional district, I would like to wish him well and thank him for all he has done for our community.

HONORING SAMUEL GRANBY, JR.

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, communities are built upon the shared values and good will of neighbors. Samuel Granby, Jr., known to his friends as "Granby," has continually demonstrated his selfless commitment to his community and to enhancing the lives of others. He lives by the principle, "Service to Mankind."

Granby was introduced to mortuary science while serving our great nation. He was responsible with transporting deceased personnel to the morgue, even though he had suffered from second and third degree burns as the result of a lightning strike. He received an honorable discharge from the United States Army in 1955, and later graduated from the McAllister School of Embalming.

Granby married his high school sweetheart, Ayris Evans, and the pair is blessed with two children, Ayris and Rev. Lamont. Granby and his wife also have three wonderful grandchildren.

An entrepreneur at heart, Granby dreamed of owning his own funeral service. Granby operated his funeral business out of the Wiley's Funeral Home, before opening Granby's Funeral Service, Inc., on April 27, 1984. Granby's is truly a family enterprise; his wife and children have helped him manage and grow the business.

After 37 years of service, Granby retired as a general supervisor for the United States Postal Service in 1988. He was very popular with his coworkers and would train his staff for other opportunities within the USPS.

Granby has shown the same type of steadfast dedication to his community as he has to his profession. He served as the Chairperson for the Carnegie Hall concert given by the Friends of the United Negro College Fund Choir, which raised money for the United Negro College Fund and helps defray travel costs for the United Negro College Fund Choir.

He is also a member of: Prince Hall, Fidelity Lodge #97 of Free and Accepted Masons; Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Epsilon Sigma Chapter; 369th Veterans Association, Westchester District; Saint Luke's Episcopal Church's "Men on a Mission" and the Williamsbridge Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Granby has been recognized and honored by several organizations for his service. Among his honors, Granby and his wife jointly received the "Pierre Toussaint Medallion" from the New York Archdiocese in 2007.

He strongly believes that education is the key to uplifting the community, and in the spirit of his beliefs, Granby's Funeral Service has established a scholarship fund for college-bound students and those seeking to attend vocational school.

Samuel Granby's story illustrates the power of striving for our dreams. I applaud him for his commitment to our nation through his service in the armed forces, to his community and to his family.

RECOGNIZING DR. CORA L.E. CHRISTIAN

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend a medical colleague who has been a trailblazer for over 30 years, in the area of health care in my district of the U.S. Virgin Islands, in the wider Caribbean and in the national arena as well.

Dr. Cora L.E. Christian was the first native female to become a medical doctor in the Virgin Islands and this Saturday, June 14th, she will be honored for a lifetime of dedicated public service, by the Virgin Islands Medical Institute, (VIMI), a group that she founded in 1977 to improve the quality of health care for all territorial residents. Today I join them in paying tribute to a fellow physician, administrator and public servant for her vision, courage and diligence as she worked to make a difference in the lives of the people of our community.

Dr. Christian completed her medical studies at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, her residency in Family Practice at Howard University Medical Center and her Masters in Public Health at Johns Hopkins University.

Upon completion of her studies, she returned to the Virgin Islands to serve the economically depressed area of Frederiksted, St. Croix. There, she served as emergency room physician, and Physician in Charge of the Ingeborg Nesbitt Clinic. In 1977, she became Assistant Commissioner of Health for the Virgin Islands, and served in that capacity for over 15 years, spanning three political administrations. She was in charge of health services on the island of St. Croix as well as having territory wide responsibility for ambulatory